

## Public Hearing Comments

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Comments on Docket #2021-P-W-0016 -- Pubusky/Taylor

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### Comments:

I have no objection to allowing the walkway to the dock/pier but I do have concerns with the request to increase the size of the dock/pier by 235%. The applicant should be able to replace their dock with a similar size of that they currently have (173 sq feet) which is based on the 12x4 and 5x25 updated (9/2/2021) measurements by Coastal and Estuarine Research (Costal). As everyone is aware, the housing growth in Lewes has been unprecedented the past several years. The waterways are a public asset and allowing one individual to more than double the size of the dock/pier is not in line with persevering the area for the benefit of all and not just one family. The other concerns many of us have is that there were material misrepresentations in the application and the hearing by the applicant and Coastal and Estuarine Research. Misrepresentation #1 The application initially stated that the current dock/pier area was approximately 400 sq feet (taking the supplied dimensions and calculating sq feet to make the figures more comparable). Several individuals had commented that the current dock figures were grossly exaggerated. This seemed to infer the new dock/pier would not be substantially larger but it is. The 9/2 update by Coastal revises the figure down to 173sq feet. Misrepresentation #2 The application states there is only 1 Boat. During the hearing on August 25, 2021, the applicants stated, more than once, the recently "acquired" another boat. The 9/2 document from Coastal states that the Applicants have not acquired another boat but will be purchasing another from relatives at a future date. Coastal seems to imply that the applicant is entitled to have a larger dock because they will have a second boat, they are requesting a dock/pier that would total 420 sq feet, 235% larger than the 173 sq feet they have today. This is on top of adding 450 sq feet of new walkway. Again, I am supportive of a walkway but not increasing the size of the dock and pier on public space. The applicant should be restricted to their current size dock/pier (173 sq feet). The applicant will still be better off by having the walkway. Not sure why Coastal has made references to 1999 as the current owners bought the property in 2018 and could not reasonably expect to increase the size of their private dock/pier by 235% on public waterways.